

Amendment to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph under the section heading "RELATED APPLICATIONS" occurring on page 1 with the following paragraph:

This application is a divisional application of US application # 09/793,873, filed on February 27, 2001, now US Patent No. 6,723,324 .

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 3, line 14 with the following paragraph:

It has now been found that these objects can be met by providing a chicken anaemia virus (CAV), characterised in that the virus is neutralised by a reference sample comprising monoclonal antibody R2 secreted by a hybridoma cell line, a sample of which is deposited at the European Collection of Animal Cell Cultures (ECACC), Centre for Applied Microbiology & Research, Porton Down, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 OJG, UK, on February 3, 2000 under accession no. 00020304.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 6 with the following paragraph:

To examine whether a CAV strain is neutralised by a sample comprising Moab R2, first the neutralising antibody titre of the Moab R2 sample against the CAV strain 319 deposited at the European Collection of Animal Cell Cultures (ECACC), Centre for Applied Microbiology & Research, Porton Down, Salisbury, Wiltshire SP4 OJG, UK, on January 26, 2000 under accession no. V00012608 ~~00012608~~ must be established in a virus neutralisation test, as described in Example 1 below. Depending on the antibody titre, a Moab R2 reference sample is prepared by either dilution or concentration of the Moab R2 sample so that 50 µl contains an antibody titre of 16 (log₂) when examined against 300-1000 TCID₅₀ per 50 µl of CAV strain 319 in a virus neutralisation test as described in Example 1.

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Response to Office Action of November 8, 2005

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 4, line 31 and extending to page 5, line 2 with the following paragraph:

A most preferred strain according to the present invention is CAV strain 319, a sample of which is deposited at the ECACC under accession no. V00012608 ~~00012608~~. In view of its non-pathogenic properties this strain is particularly suited as a vaccine component for immunising young chickens or chicken embryos.